



**SIMCOG**  
TECHNOLOGIES

## **Big Data and Predictive Analytics in Business Use Cases**

HAMBURG,  
March 10, 2016





**SIM**  
SIMULATION



**COG**  
COGNITION

## SimCog Technologies GmbH

- Founded in 2012
- Based in Hamburg
- 6 Employees → Looking for more Data Scientists
- Several Use Cases in the Area of Predictive Analytics
- Mainly Private Equity owned



## Difference between Science and Business

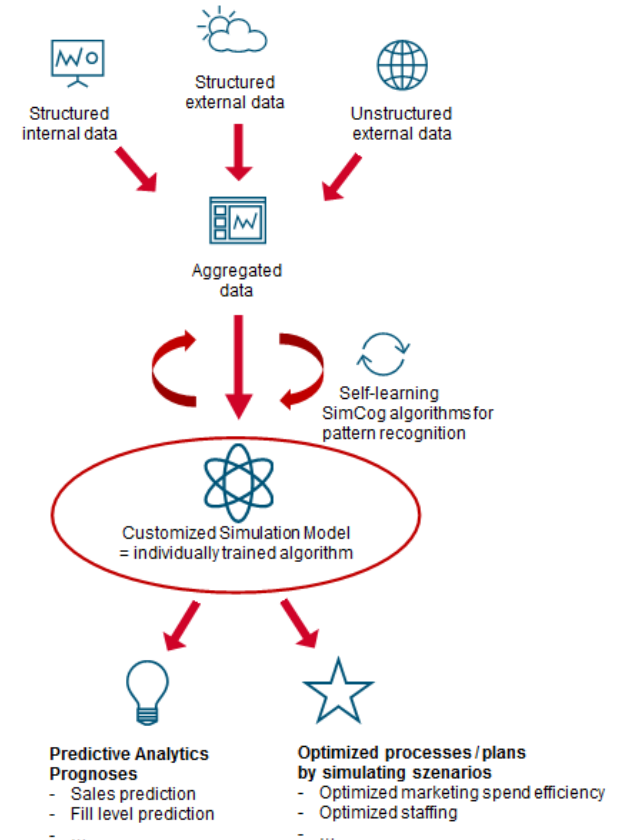
- Shorter turnaround-time in business
  - Projects last ~ 3 Month
- Specialized “skill set” of Data Scientists
  - Finding economic relevant problem and external data (Consultant)
  - Explaining methods / results / tests to “uneducated” managers (Sales / Acquisition)
  - Find best statistical method, e.g. Neural Net vs. BDT (Statistician)
  - Efficient programming in small teams (Programmer)
  - Extract relevant data from Databases, APIs, Web crawler, ... (Data Analyst)
- Long-Term Jobs and better Payment

## Fusion of relevant Data

- Structured internal company data
- Structured external data, e.g. geodata, holiday seasons, weather, etc.
- Special feature: Inclusion of unstructured data is possible, e.g. social media monitoring

## Properties of the Simulation Model

- Self-learning algorithms
- Quality checks with historic data
- Selection of appropriate algorithms for specific questions





## What does “Big Data” mean in Research and Business

Byte	=	Grain of Rice	
Kilobyte	=	Cup of Rice	
Megabyte	=	Eight Bags of Rice	
<b>Gigabyte</b>	=	<b>Three Lorries of Rice</b>	→ Business
Terabyte	=	Two Container ships of Rice	
<b>Petabyte</b>	=	<b>Manhattan covered with Rice</b>	→ CERN
Exabyte	=	Great Britain covered with Rice (3 times)	
Zettabyte	=	Fills Pacific Ocean with Rice	

**However, data in business comes from many different sources and the inclusion of external data is the key in big data analysis**

## The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

### Some Data-Format Examples

- Most Data available in „good“ CSV-files
  - Inconsistent Data/Time Formats
  - , and . in numbers
  - Missing quotation and binary numers
- Database Dump

KUNDEN_NR_	POSITION_NR_	STATUS	Kundenart	Kundengruppe	ADM	Partnertyp	PREISGRUPPE	VERTRAGART
MINERALOLSTEUER_KZ	Branche	ANWENDUNGART	VORNAME	STRASSE	LAND_KZ_	POSTLEITZAHL	ORT	VERTRAGART
VERTRAGDATUM	Miete	Miete Zeiteinheit	wartung	wartung	Zeiteinheit	Abschlag	Abschlag	Zeiteinheit
LIEFERDATUM	ARTIKEL_NR_	BEZEICHNUNG_1	MENGE_KG	MENGE_LITER		MENGENEINHEIT	PROZ_NACH_BEFUELLUNG	LFD_BEHAELTER_NR
TEMPERATUR	POSITIONSWERT	NETTO	BEZEICHNUNG	BEZEICHNUNG2	Beh.-Gr	to	Lagerungsart	
beh_nr_hersteller	hersteller	baufahr	behaltervolumen					
77005354	1	I	Z_hleranlage	Z_hlerkunden			NULL	63
unbekannt			Heizen und kochen					BT
								D
02.10.2001	110015		BRENNGAS-Tank	24plus-Miete	01.01.1960	1539,462	3005	LTR
998,68	100	Liter	Sofort netto f„llig	2,1 To		unterirdisch		2714100
01.01.1998	4850							82287
77005349	1		Tank-Endverbraucher	Tank Endverbraucher				18
0	BT		unbekannt	Heizen und kochen	Vw			Betreiber
	D							
47,55	H		25.09.2003	110015	BRENNGAS-Tank	Tank-Miete/wartung	01.01.1960	61,36
5364	LTR	84	10	2708,82	100	Liter	Sofort netto f„llig	2,9 To
								H
								2769
								oberirdisch

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- XML in CSV-file

4	<NM_DOC>						
5	<DOCUMENT type="orders" qualifier="default" role="original" test="false">						
6	<VERSION>4.0</VERSION>						
7	<HEADER>						
8	<CONTROL_INFO>						
9	<LAST_SAVE_DATE>2015-10-26T08:38:39+01:00</LAST_SAVE_DATE>						
10	<PROCESS_TYPE>silent</PROCESS_TYPE>						
11	<SOURCE>edi</SOURCE>						
12	<DESTINATION [REDACTED]</DESTINATION>						
13	<LOGS>						
14	<LOG type="buyer">						
15	<MESSAGE_ID>FE020/OE002/0247</MESSAGE_ID>						
16	</LOG>						
17	<LOG type="nm_in">						
18	<MESSAGE_ID>75704088</MESSAGE_ID>						
19	<PROCESS_DATE>2015-10-26T08:38:31+01:00</PROCESS_DATE>						
20	</LOG>						
21	<LOG type="nm_messageprocess">						
22	<MESSAGE_ID>OP-0001768f-67c8-4fe7-8dac-55557b7e0e8c</MESSAGE_ID>						
23	<PROCESS_DATE>2015-10-26T08:38:31+01:00</PROCESS_DATE>						
24	</LOG>						
25	</LOGS>						

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- Excel Sheets

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1												
2	<b>Gesamt Online ( Franchise und eigene Standorte )</b>											
3	Home- und Landingpages (Google/Bing)											
4												
5												
6	Datum	Tag	Budget SEA ( Google + Bing )	Visits	Mails	Mails über	VCR Mail	Anrufe	Anrufe über	VCR Anrufe	Anfragen gesamt	VCR Gesamt
216	29.07.2015	Mittwoch	2.509 €	3.414	65	0	1.9%	95	0	2.8%	160	4.7%
217	30.07.2015	Donnerstag	2.061 €	3.051	51	0	1.7%	93	0	3.0%	144	4.7%
218	31.07.2015	Freitag	1.675 €	2.397	45	0	1.9%	78	0	3.3%	123	5.1%
219	01.08.2015	Samstag	787 €	1.217	26	0	2.1%	10	0	0.8%	36	3.0%
220	02.08.2015	Sonntag	967 €	1.479	22	0	1.5%	14	0	0.9%	36	2.4%
221	03.08.2015	Montag	1.772 €	2.843	47	0	1.7%	77	0	2.7%	124	4.4%
222	04.08.2015	Dienstag	1.809 €	2.683	39	0	1.5%	69	0	2.6%	108	4.0%
223	05.08.2015	Mittwoch	1.459 €	2.347	33	0	1.4%	54	0	2.3%	87	3.7%
224	06.08.2015	Donnerstag	1.195 €	2.131	31	0	1.5%	57	0	2.7%	88	4.1%
225	07.08.2015	Freitag	1.121 €	1.810	18	0	1.0%	33	0	1.8%	51	2.8%
226	08.08.2015	Samstag	523 €	975	14	0	1.4%	11	0	1.1%	25	2.6%
227	09.08.2015	Sonntag	1.003 €	1.384	22	0	1.6%	6	0	0.4%	28	2.0%
228	10.08.2015	Montag	1.769 €	2.759	45	0	1.6%	62	0	2.2%	107	3.9%
229	11.08.2015	Dienstag	1.947 €	2.920	34	0	1.2%	55	0	1.9%	89	3.0%
230	12.08.2015	Mittwoch	1.939 €	3.274	21	0	0.6%	78	0	2.4%	99	3.0%
231	13.08.2015	Donnerstag	1.824 €	2.699	41	0	1.5%	30	0	1.1%	71	2.6%
371												
372												
373												
374												
375												
376												

Die VCR ist erst ab dem 09.01.2015 korrekt mit dem Vorjahr vergleichbar  
Die Visits wurden auf Basis der Entwicklung (+13% Visits) in 2015 für 2014 korrigiert.



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- Excel Sheets
- „Media Plan“-Excel Sheets
- PDF

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Basis	800	80	62	11	19	71	629	171
	-263	-4	55	67	2	45	359	64
	57.9%	80.0%	68.7%	63.0%	47.4%	63.4%	64.4%	37.4%
	12	AEFGH	AEFGH	11	12	H	GH	16
	22.0%	35.0%	25.8%	100.0%	63.2%	13	25.4%	16
	105	18	13	15	5	9	82	13
	13.1%	22.5%	21.0%	18.3%	26.3%	12.7%	14.6%	9.4%
	57	3	2	1	1	4	36	21
	7.1%	3.6%	3.2%	9.1%	5.3%	5.6%	5.7%	12.3%
	29	9	6	0	0	10	47	9
	7.0%	7.5%	9.7%	0	0	14.1%	7.5%	5.3%
	45	0	0	1	5	8	29	16
	5.6%	5.0%	3.3%	9.1%	10.5%	11.3%	4.6%	9.4%
	28	0	0	0	0	0	16	12
	3.5%	-	-	-	-	-	2.5%	9.0%
	22	3	6	0	2	35	35	1.2%
	2.9%	6.3%	6.2%	0	5.3%	2.8%	3.3%	1.2%
	19	0	0	0	0	0	16	3
	2.4%	5.0%	1.6%	18.5%	15.8%	2.8%	2.5%	1.8%
	16	1	1	0	0	3	13	3
	2.0%	1.3%	1.6%	0	-	4.2%	2.1%	1.8%
	14	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
	1.8%	2.5%	3.2%	0	-	1.4%	13	0.6%
	12	0	1	0	0	0	11	1
	1.5%	3.8%	1.6%	9.1%	10.5%	-	1.7%	0.6%
	9	2	0	0	0	0	9	0
	1.1%	2.5%	3.2%	0	-	0	1.4%	0
	9	1	0	0	0	0	7	0
	1.1%	1.3%	0	0	5.3%	4.2%	0.3%	4.1%
	8	0	0	0	0	0	8	0
	1.0%	2.5%	1.6%	9.1%	5.3%	-	1.3%	0

	Bewegtbild	GRPs
46		
47		
48		
49	Gesamt Bewegtbild	
50	GRP (HHF m. K10-19 / F30+ m. K10-19)	
51	GRP (HHF m. K10-19 / F30+ m. K10-19) inkl. Wirkungsplus*	1,533
52	Kosten	
53	Reichweite/ OTS	Differenz Plan/Ist
54		
55	TV	
56	GRP (HHF m. K10-19 / F30+ m. K10-19)	992
57	Kosten	
58	Reichweite/ OTS	
59		
60	TV Platforming	
61	GRP (HHF m. K10-19 / F30+ m. K10-19)	
62	GRP (HHF m. K10-19 / F30+ m. K10-19) inkl. Wirkungsplus*	500
63	Kosten	
64	Reichweite/ OTS	
65		
66	Video On Demand	
67	GRP (HHF m. K10-19 / F30+ m. K10-19)	40
68	Kosten	
69	Reichweite/ OTS	

ab 03.01.														
Bewegtbild Q1												BW Q1		
31	96	84	103	99	90	94	67	62	68	58	55	60	59	54
35	108	98	119	116	103	113	75	75	75	65	61	67	64	60
40	146	141	128	153	163	192	124	148	172	129	130	134	159	143
52	149	149	149	157	204	204	133	138	150	150	150	149	149	150
84,2% NRW, 12,5OTS														
12° 5 weg												12° 2+1		
23	74	57	74	68	67	61	51	38	55	45	43	47	47	42
17	69	46	42	64	60	77	53	52	100	57	49	62	78	65
80,1% NRW, 9,6 OTS														
13° PF												13° PF		
6	20	24	27	29	21	31	14	22	11	11	10	11	10	10
10	32	38	43	46	34	50	22	35	18	18	16	18	15	16
13	62	74	71	74	88	100	56	81	58	57	66	57	66	63
56,0% NRW, 4,5 OTS														
12° 5 weg												12° 2+1		
1	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
9	15	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
5,6% NRW, 5,0 OTS														



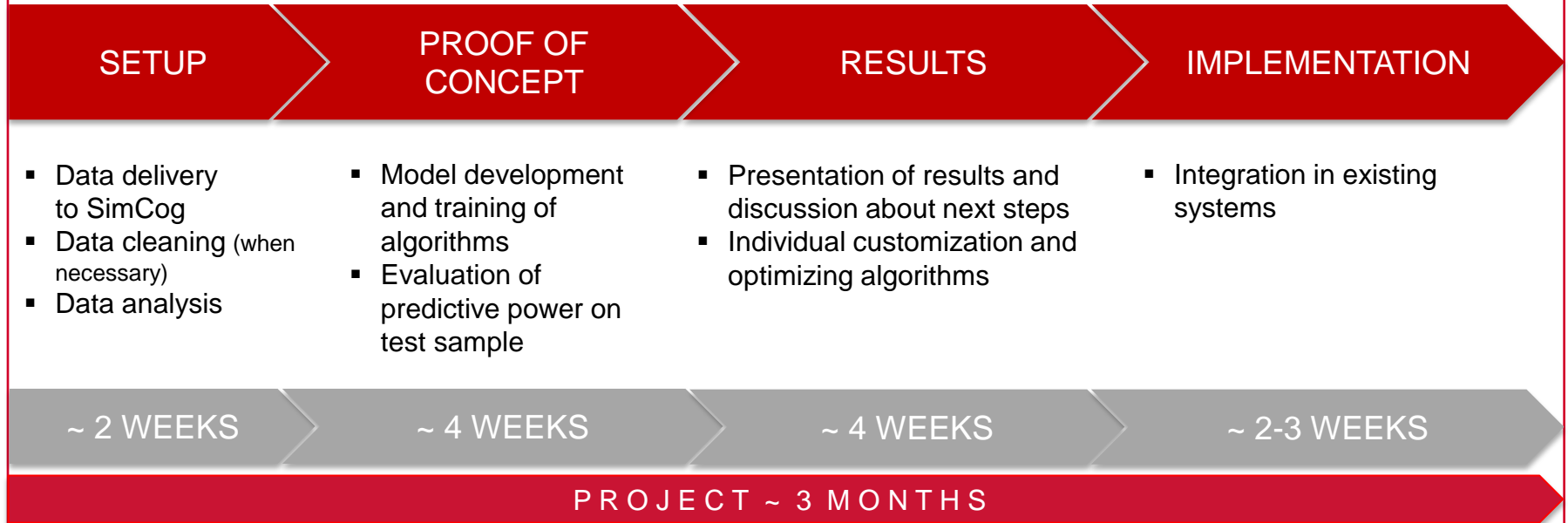
## Programming Languages

- C++
- ROOT (only at SimCog)
- Java (Natural Language Processing, APIs)
- R
- Python
- Database (SQL, noSQL etc.)



## First Steps before Starting a Project

- Task: Find an economic relevant problem, that can be answered with the company data\*
- Required prediction quality depends on economic leverage



\*Typically companies have historical data of the past ~ 4 years



## Initial question

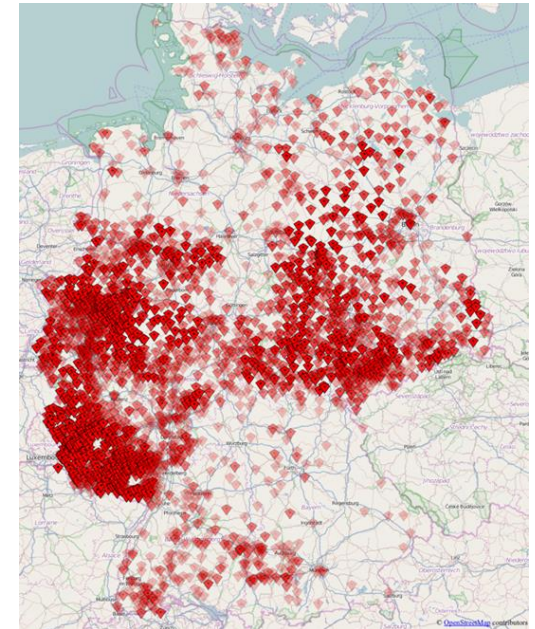
- Client is an energy supplier that delivers gas to ~ 30.000 consumption points in Germany
- Basic idea: optimize delivery logistics by a precise fill level prediction

## Used internal data → *provided by client*

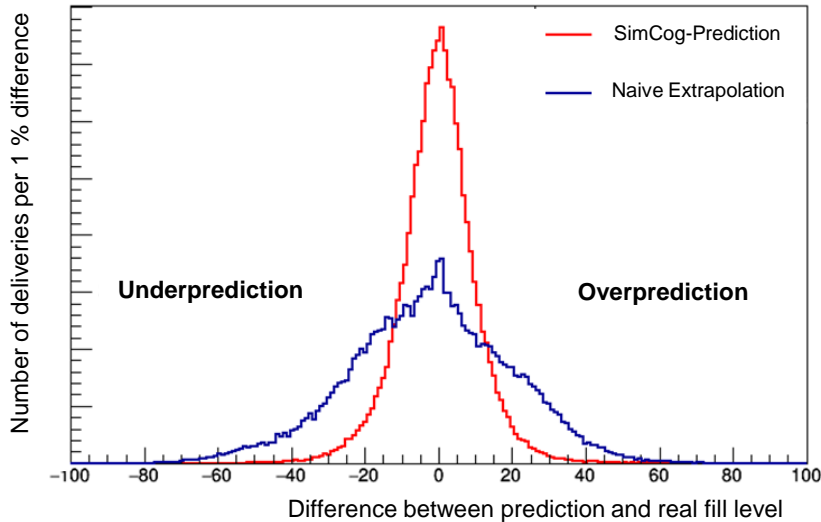
- All gas deliveries since 2002
  - Quantity delivered, date of delivery, fill level after filling, ...
- Contract type
  - Heating, heating & cooking, balloonist, industry, ...
- Fuel tank capacity
- Use of alternative energy sources
- Postal code

## Used external data → *added by SimCog*

- Weather (per consumption point weather information from the three nearest weather stations is used)
- Geo-structural data, e.g. population density
- Information of the tank supplier



Comparison Naive Extrapolation / SimCog-Prediction



## Comparison of predictions:

The method „**Naive Extrapolation**“ considers the past and carries on the average consumption of the past

The **SimCog-Prediction** uses latest machine-learning-algorithms and integrates external data

→ SimCog's pattern recognition is more than twice as accurate as the naive extrapolation



## Precision

Very precise predictions: uncertainty ~ 5% on sales volumes



- Fill level prediction
  - Daily updates of the fill level prediction for 30'000 existing customers
- Delivery date prediction
  - Daily updates of the delivery date prediction for 30'000 existing customers
- Identification of illegal third-party refillment
- Quarterly prediction for optimized supply chain management, energy disposition, purchasing & liquidity planning (of the client)
- Detection of essential data errors
  - Issue warnings for unexpected events such as: negative consumption, illegal third-party refillment, strong behavior change, data error, ...
- Automatic adjustment of predictions when behavior is altered (self-learning)



1. Reduced storage and standby costs
  - Optimized supply chain management through greatly improved estimated amount of energy needed
2. Cost savings through improved route planning
  - Optimized distribution logistics
  - Better utilization of refilling trucks
  - Customers can be addressed directly for e.g. „early refueling“
3. Improved marketing and sales activities
  - Improved timing of customer contact
  - Special promotion more controllable
4. Improved handling of illegal third-party refillment
  - Phone customers where the probability of third-party refillment is high
  - Legal action is an option in safe cases
5. Improved overview of turnover by predicting the fill level in the counter systems



## Retail



### Retail B2C

- Sales Prediction
- Footfall
- Customer Forecast
- Shopping Cart
- Online / Offline

### Retail B2B

- Sales Prediction
- Online / Offline

## Marketing



### Marketing

- Marketing Spend Efficiency
- Retargeting
- Churn Rate
- Coupon-Conversion

## Logistics



### Logistics

- Shipping ETA
- Fill Level Prediction Energy

## More Solutions



### More Solutions

- Fraud Detection
- Stock Price Prediction
- Protection against Economic Espionage
- ...



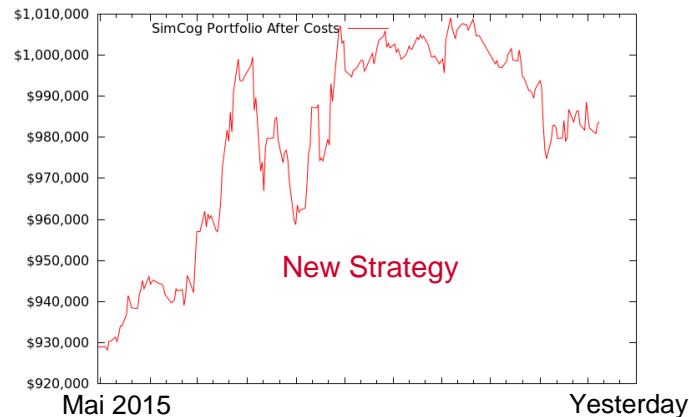
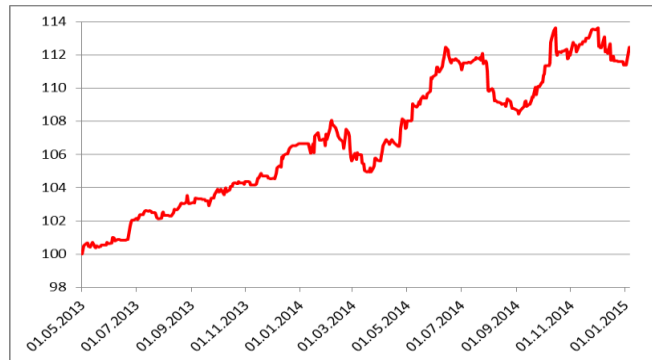


## Predictive Analytics: Stock Price

### Use Case

- Predict most likely stock price movements and trade with an automated market-neutral trading strategy
- In addition to using stock prices, sector information, director dealings, etc. the analysis of social media information is a crucial factor
  - Discussion from the social web are considered within individual subject areas

### Result of real trades on SimCog account:





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